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the claims now pending in the application are anticipated under the provisions of 35 U.S.C. §102 or obvious under the provisions of 35 U.S.C. §103. Furthermore, the Applicants also submit that these claims now satisfy the requirements of 35 U.S.C. § 112. Thus, the Applicants believe that all of the claims are now in allowable form.

#### Objections

In view of the telephone communication from the Examiner of November 15, 2002 and for the reasons stated therein, the Examiner's objections have been withdrawn.

#### Rejections

##### A. 35 U.S.C. § 112

The Examiner has rejected claims 1-22 under the provisions of the first paragraph of 35 U.S.C. § 112 as containing subject matter which was not described in the specification in such a way as to enable one skilled in the art to which it pertains, or with which it is most nearly connected, to make and/or use the invention.

Specifically, the Examiner alleges that "Claims 1, 5, 6, 11, 16, and 20 use the term 'time slot.' The specification fails to define 'time slot' as it relates to the claimed invention."

In accordance with and for the reasons stated in the telephone communication of November 15, 2002, the Examiner has withdrawn his objections to claims 1-22. The Examiner stated that claims 1-22 as they now stand do fully define 'time slot' as it relates to the claimed invention.

Therefore, the Applicants respectfully submit that claims 1-22 as they now stand, do not contain any subject matter not described in the specification and do enable one skilled in the art to which it pertains to make and/or use the invention, and hence fully satisfy the requirements of 35 U.S.C. § 112 and are patentable thereunder.

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B. 35 U.S.C. § 102

The Examiner had formerly rejected claims 1-5 under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Tocci, Digital Systems: Principles and Applications, 3<sup>rd</sup> edition (Prentice Hall, Inc. 1985, Pages 388-394).

In accordance with and for the reasons stated in the telephone communication of November 15, 2002, the Examiner has withdrawn his 102(b) rejections of claims 1-5. The Examiner states that there exist significant distinguishing features between the invention of the Applicants and the teachings of Tocci.

Therefore, the Applicants respectfully submit that claims 1-5 are not anticipated by the teachings of Tocci and, as such, fully satisfy the requirements of 35 U.S.C. § 102 and are patentable thereunder.

C. 35 U.S.C. § 103(a)

The Examiner had formerly rejected claims 6,11, and 16-22 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over the Van Hoogenbermt patent (United States patent 6,169,736 issued Jan. 2, 2001).

In accordance with and for the reasons stated in the telephone communication of November 15, 2002, the Examiner has withdrawn his 103(a) rejections of claims 6,11, and 16-22. The Examiner states that there exist significant distinguishing features between the invention of the Applicants and the teachings of the Van Hoogenbermt patent.

As such, the Applicants respectfully submit that Van Hoogenbermt does not teach or suggest or make obvious at least the Applicants' claims 6,11, and 16-22. Therefore, the Applicants submit that claims 6,11, and 16-22 fully satisfy the requirements of 35 U.S.C § 103 and are patentable thereunder.

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Applicants' Note

The Applicants would like to sincerely thank the Examiner for his guidance and assistance in furthering the prosecution of the Applicants' patent application. The Examiner's responsiveness and professionalism is greatly appreciated.

Conclusion

Thus the Applicants' submit that none of the claims, presently in the application, are anticipated under the provisions of 35 U.S.C. § 102 or obvious under the provisions of 35 U.S.C. §103. Furthermore, the Applicants also submit that all of these claims now fully satisfy the requirements of 35 U.S.C. § 112. Consequently, the Applicants believe that all these claims are presently in condition for allowance. Accordingly, both reconsideration of this application and its swift passage to issue are earnestly solicited.

If however, the Examiner believes that there are any unresolved issues requiring adverse final action in any of the claims now pending in the application, it is requested that the Examiner telephone Eamon J. Wall, Esq. at (732) 530-9404 so that appropriate arrangements can be made for resolving such issues as expeditiously as possible.

Respectfully submitted,



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